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WEEKEND WEATHER

Today

27°
7°



Saturday

10°
5°



Sunday

21°
18°



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NOT YOUR AVERAGE TEACHER



Photograph by Shannon Smagala

Nimmer said her guide dog Nacho has been her “steady, stable partner” since July.

Indiana's 2015 Teacher of the Year visited campus last night

Becca Robb
News Co-Editor

Kathy Nimmer wasn't born blind. She wasn't blind when she learned to write or when she first dreamed of becoming a teacher. And losing her sight while she was in second grade didn't stop her from realizing this dream.

Nimmer—Indiana's 2015 Teacher of the Year—has taught English and creative writing at Harrison High School in West Lafayette for 24 years and spent this past year touring and speaking at events around the country.

Last night's event in the Recital Hall, hosted by Taylor's Kappa Delta Pi chapter, was Nimmer's 226th speech since this August. Before the event she said she's always wanted to be a teacher.

“I wanted to be more than a purveyor of information to students, because

that's what (my) teachers were to me,” Nimmer said. “They were supportive and they loved me enough to help me through the dark times when I was upset about losing vision or I was struggling to learn Braille, and I wanted to find a way to be that anchor for my students, too.”

When she first started teaching, Nimmer said she tried to make it seem like her blindness wasn't an issue. She felt uncomfortable reading Braille in front of the class or walking around the room for fear of bumping into something. This forced her to stay behind the podium and remain emotionally distant from her students, which allowed her classes to get out of hand.

This continued until a student got so wild that he threw his book bag through a window, shattering the glass. At this point, she decided to let go of her anxiety about her blindness and let it be more public.

Nimmer said that, while blindness is central to her story, she doesn't like to give it center stage.

“(My students will say,) ‘Yep, Miss Nimmer, she's tall, and she has curly hair and she's blind.’ It's not the first thing in their focus because it's not the first thing in my focus . . . I move around a lot, and if I bump into something I just say, ‘Oh, there's another bruise!’”

From the appearance of her classroom, it's obvious that this is no ordinary class.

Instead of raising their hands to answer questions, students call out their names. Nimmer uses Braille and a talking computer to take notes and read students' writings. And her guide dog, Nacho, spends his school days resting on a small memory-foam bed.

“It's very much part of my philosophy to create a warm and respectful and positive atmosphere,” Nimmer said. “Because when you have all of that, then problems don't develop as easily when the students like being there and when the teacher knows who the students are and cares (about them).”

Instead of writing on the board,

Nimmer enjoys talking with her students and facilitating class discussions, as speech is one of her strongest means of communication. In order to take care of more challenging visual tasks, her school hired a teacher's aid to help her input grades, create handouts and make visual presentations.

She considers it a privilege to be a blind teacher, because she can't judge her students by what they look like, whether they look pretty, stylish or sleepy.

In her speech, Nimmer encouraged audience members to set visions for where they want to go in life. She said that if she could walk through a door and instantly become sighted, she would have a hard decision to make because of the richness evident in her life.

“Blind or not, we're all carrying baggage . . . (But) our value is not in what we can and cannot do. We are all children of God and that's where our innate value is.”

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Taylor hosts Special Olympics



The Grant County Mayhem celebrate their 40–18 win.

Photograph by Cassidy Grom

Teams packed into the KSAC Saturday

Cassidy Grom
News Co-Editor

Squeak, squeak, swish. The sounds of vigorous games of basketball reverberated off the walls of the KSAC on Saturday. Flashes of red, black and blue jerseys wove around stationary volunteers clad in neon orange t-shirts.

It was the day of the Take it to the Hoop, a basketball Special Olympics tournament, and the participants' energy was tangible.

Several teams from Grant County and surrounding counties played on the courts while family and friends observed.

Kay Carroll sat on the sidelines of the Grant County Lightning team. She

watched her son, Mitch, who has cerebral palsy, pass a ball with his left hand. His neurological disorder prevented him from using his right arm, but the casual onlooker would hardly notice—Mitch has been playing basketball for over 15 years, and the experience showed. Mitch and his two teammates smiled as they dodged defenders.

When a ball swished through the net, a cheer went up from the crowded bleachers.

“Special Olympics has certainly taught many people about what real sportsmanship is,” Carroll said. “When I have attended high school basketball games, sometimes I want to turn my head. For these (special) athletes, they cheer on each other.”

Senior David Wright, co-organizer of the event, said the Special Olympics gives opportunities for athletes

in every walk of life. Participants range from individuals who are married with children and have only a slight disability to people who are nonverbal or have a physical ailment confining them to a wheelchair.

Athletes practiced for several weeks in preparation for the tournament. If they won two games at Taylor, they could move on to regionals and, eventually, state. Early in the season, volunteers divided athletes into teams based on ability. The levels of play include everything from “skills,” where the athletes practice basic passing and shooting techniques, to full-court five-on-five games.

According to Wright, about 150 Taylor students volunteered to host teams, run scoreboards and referee. Throughout the KSAC, Taylor students chatted, laughed and, in one case, played Mad Gab with athletes

as they waited for the next game.

According to Wright, they spent intentional downtime together. Approximately seven Taylor students volunteer on a weekly basis to work with special Grant County athletes in basketball, track and swimming. Wright's hope is that the Special Olympic basketball event will give college students a taste of what a long-term volunteer commitment looks like.

On the other end of the gymnasium, the Grant County Mayhem team relaxed after a 40–18 win over the Kosciusko County Panthers. The coach, Stacey Stevens, has a brother with down syndrome. She volunteered to coach basketball 10 years ago and has never stopped. Last season her team went undefeated—and this season looks promising too.

“We have to work on defense a lot,” said Mayhem assistant coach Brooke Neyeart. “We would like to move up and learn zone . . . but we do more man-on-man because of the capability and having them retain (the concepts). I know the team so well after four years, that I know who can do what . . . I just play off everybody's strengths.”

Although they were tired and sweaty from their latest victory, the Panthers exchanged smiles and high fives. When asked who their biggest rival was, athlete Bradley Turner answered immediately: “Jay County—I've had a rival for those guys for a long time.”

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“What do you guys actually do?”



Student body president and vice president Kasey Leander and Camila Chiang have mysterious but important duties on campus. Photograph provided by Kasey Leander

Taylor Student Organization members explain their roles at Taylor

Kasey Leander
Student Body President

This is the first in a series of bi-weekly columns written by TSO members.

Hello! You just started reading the Presidential Scoop. It’s our bi-weekly method of informing you, our beloved constituents, of all the juicy insider secrets we learn while serving as your Student Body President/Vice President/Treasurer. This column pairs really nicely with a huge scoop of ice cream.

This week we’re going to answer the question “What do you guys actually do as Student Body President/Vice President?” A fair question indeed. We have two main jobs. These jobs are (1) hiring/leading Taylor Student Organization (TSO) and (2) representing the student body to the administration.

If you have no idea what TSO is, don’t worry. Most students are a little foggy on its exact form and function. But—guess what—you’ve probably been a part of TSO’s fabulous programming! If you’ve ever been to Airband, Nostalgia Night, MyGen, World Religions Week, the halloween dance or the National Student Leadership Conference, you’ve been to a TSO

event. If you’ve ever played an intramural sport, heard a sweet band like Son Lux or Summer Heart jam in the Union or watched your friends wipe out hard at Taylathon, you’ve been to a TSO event.

Last spring, we hired some amazing people to take the lead on making all that stuff happen. That’s the first half of our job: hiring and supporting the folks who make up TSO Executive Cabinet.

The second half of our job is representing the student body in an official capacity. We meet with President Eugene Habecker, Skip Trudeau and other staff regularly, and we get to be part (with several of you guys!) of the University Planning Council, which gives important feedback to the administration on a semi-regular basis. Once a semester, we go to Taylor’s Board of Trustees and give them a quick update. Occasionally, the TSO Executive Cabinet is solicited for feedback on a variety of issues (suggesting names for new spots on campus, our take on meal swipes, etc.)

So that’s our job in a nutshell. We’re thrilled that you hired us to do it. If you have any questions, comments or criticisms, feel free to hit us up!

Until next time,

Kasey Leander SBP, Camila Chiang SBVP, Michael Free TSO Treasurer
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Critical learning

Professors return to the classroom to learn

G. Connor Salter
Contributor

Professors are becoming students again by taking part in an initiative designed to better integrate critical thinking into the classroom.

Three years ago, psychology professor Steve Snyder partnered with the Bedi Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence to teach strategic reasoning skills to faculty members.

“We all teach critical thinking implicitly,” said Faye Chechowich, dean of faculty development and director of the Bedi Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence. “But what (Taylor professors learn) is there are strategies to teach critical thinking skills explicitly.”

Snyder, who has been experienced in critical thinking studies since 1989, agreed with Chechowich’s suggestion but felt the Bedi Center should develop the idea even further. He believed that effective faculty development required more than a brief lunchtime session; it needed to be a long-term process of classroom observation and ongoing integration.

The original workshop idea has

since developed into what the Bedi Center refers to as “critical thinking initiatives.” Every summer, four or five professors meet with Snyder for a week, and he shows them ways to connect critical thinking skills and dispositions to teaching strategies they already use.

Once the fall semester begins, Snyder assigns a psychology student to observe each participating professor’s classroom. The student, a member of Snyder’s undergraduate research team, gives students a pretest on critical thinking and notes ways the professor integrates critical thinking skills.

At the end of the semester, Snyder and the research student give the professor’s class a posttest on critical thinking. They then issue reports on students’ improvement and areas still needing growth.

“What we have found is it takes about two semesters to really effectively integrate the information into the class,” Snyder said.

Snyder and his research students recently reviewed the last three and a half years of the initiative, and found a large practical difference between what students knew about critical thinking before and after their professors took part in the initiative.

Scott Gaier, who teaches Taylor students how to research and compose master theses in the Master of Arts in Higher Education program, said that his students developed in unexpected new ways as he took part in the critical thinking initiative.

“What I’m beginning to hear from my students is that as they work through these ideas, these skills and dispositions . . . they are becoming better decision-makers,” Gaier said.

The initiative goes beyond just helping Taylor students use critical thinking, though. It also helps participating professors understand critical thinking better.

“They’re brilliant minds,” Snyder said about his colleagues. “They already have methods that are excellent, and a lot of times when I share this (critical thinking) with them it’s like the missing puzzle piece that helps them go a second level in their ability to teach.”

Exercise science professor Matt Renfrow, a participant in the study, keeps a list of the dispositions on his desktop for quick reference.

“I’ve definitely gained a solid understanding of the CT dispositions as well as many skills,” Renfrow said. “It’s a long road to fully understand and integrate the dispositions and skills into every course, but I certainly think it’s a fruitful journey.”

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Steve Snyder developed a method to integrate critical thinking into lesson plans. Photograph by Hannah Boldt

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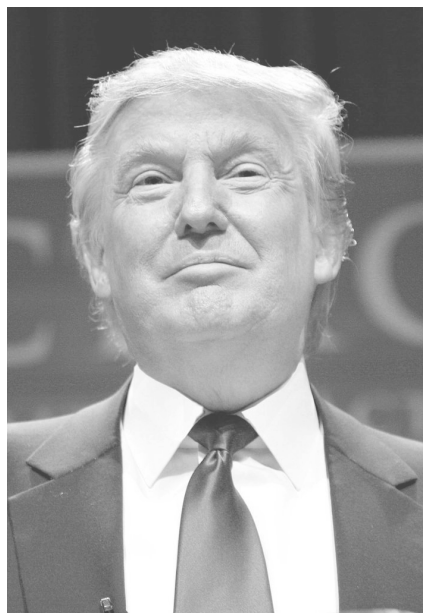
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Outsiders on the rise

Trump, Sanders make waves in first two states

Seth Brandle
Contributor



After taking second in Iowa, Trump's victory in New Hampshire bodes well for the rest of his campaign.

The presidential primaries in New Hampshire took place on Tuesday, and in both major political parties, the “outsiders” were victorious over the establishment candidates. Voters took to the polls to lend their voices and decide official party nominees for president of the United States.

Donald Trump, the billionaire businessman and real estate mogul, won the majority of the Republican primary with 35.3 percent of the vote, more than 20 percentage points over the runner-up, current Ohio governor John Kasich. Trump now leads all Republican candidates with 17 delegates. Senator Ted Cruz of Texas is in second place with 11 delegates, followed by Senator Marco Rubio of Florida with 10 delegates. All other Republican candidates are in the single digits in delegate count.

Trump is once again touting his frontrunner status after the setback of the Iowa caucuses, where Cruz won by around three percent over the billionaire Trump. The Republican race remains a tight

one, however, between Trump, Cruz and Rubio. Other candidates hoping to remain within striking distance of those three leaders include Kasich, former Florida governor Jeb Bush, former neurosurgeon Ben Carson and former Virginia governor and former Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Gilmore.

The most significant outcome of these results is the withdrawal of two Republican candidacies. Former businesswoman Carly Fiorina and New Jersey governor Chris Christie dropped out of the race on Wednesday due to poor performances in both Iowa and New Hampshire. With the number of candidates declining, undecided Republican voters will have a better opportunity to find a campaign to coalesce around and nominate. Finding a single candidate to support has been difficult to do ever since the election season began with the Republican party featuring 17 different candidates.

Meanwhile, Vermont senator Bernie Sanders claimed victory over former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton by a 22.6 percent margin in the Democratic primary. This gives Sanders 15 delegates, bringing his total number to 36 delegates. Clinton gained nine delegates from New Hampshire, giving her 32 overall.

The victory for Sanders is yet another leap forward in tightening the race with Clinton after virtually tying with her in the Iowa caucuses. The two-way competition for the Democratic nominee will potentially be even closer as the election year continues.

The presidential parties will now separate as the race moves forward, with the next Democratic caucus taking place on Feb. 20 in Nevada and the Republican race heading to a primary in South Carolina on Feb. 27. The parties will then swap states, with the next Democratic primary taking place in South Carolina and the next Republican caucus in Nevada.

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Transmitted by mosquito bite, Zika threatens millions of Latin Americans.

Zika virus runs rampant

Women urged to hold off on pregnancy

Julia Camera
Contributor

The outbreak of Zika has driven the Latin American governments to take drastic measures, urging women to avoid pregnancy until 2018, to avoid the mosquito-born virus that causes massive birth defects.

As stated in The New York Times, pregnant women bitten by mosquitoes carrying the virus endanger their infants with microcephaly, a birth defect resulting in an abnormally small head and incomplete brain development.

The first cases of microcephaly occurred last August when more doctors were delivering babies who seemed healthy but looked abnormal. The faces of these newborns were regular up until their eyebrows, but defects appeared in the reduction of the cranium, as reported in the The New York Times. Doctors didn't learn until later that the Zika virus caused the birth defect. These cases were just the start of a life-threatening outbreak soon to pass through the Americas.

Zika arose in Latin America in May of 2014. Theories suspect the virus could have spread due to the arrival of massive soccer crowds during the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, according

to the The New York Times. Though it has now crawled across the Americas, Zika hit Brazil hardest, with more than a million reported cases.

Since the first appearance of newborns diagnosed with microcephaly, a wave of distress has lapped across South America. After linking the Zika virus with the recurring birth defects, the World Health Organization has declared Zika a global emergency. Public health officials are worried by the seemingly unalarmed populations in countries like Brazil, who are accustomed to mosquito bites and slow to take precautions. According to the The New York Times, many Brazilians are too poor to buy repellent or window screens, which leaves prevention unaffordable.

According to the Washington Post, Zika is most commonly transmitted through the bite of two types of Aedes mosquitoes carrying fever-inducing pathogens. Some cases have been transmitted through sex and blood transfusion.

While 80 percent of people infected with the virus experience no symptoms, some reactions are extreme. Symptoms of Zika include joint pain, burn-like rashes and eye inflammation, but these usually resolve in a few days. So far, there have been no records of death. Without a vaccination for Zika, the virus is spreading at a rapid pace, but the real distress is the babies born from mothers who

have contracted the virus.

With the report of 5,000 cases of microcephaly in the last year, countries like El Salvador, located in Central America, are taking an extreme stance. Suspected cases of Zika first touched Central America in August. After samples of the virus were sent to the U.S. for testing, the Deputy Health Minister in El Salvador, Eduardo Espinoza, encouraged women to avoid pregnancy until 2018. Espinoza said planned pregnancies are recommended and, if possible, people should avoid having babies in the next year.

“This is the first time that we have suffered an attack of Zika virus, and the first attack is always the worst,” Espinoza said in a report from the Washington Post.

In a region that is predominantly Roman Catholic, a campaign that endorses birth control will not be popular. Hector Figueroa, a priest overseeing issues concerning public health in San Salvador, understands that this is a sensitive issue since the Catholic Church does not approve of contraception. Figueroa said, “Morality says that people shouldn't have that (birth) control,” Figueroa said. “But the church also isn't going to say something that runs contrary to life and health.”

As Zika runs rampant through a land with little means of prevention, the possibility of catching the virus is extremely high and has the potential to impact tens of millions of people. Health specialists continue to research, spreading awareness of precautions to protect the lives of Latin Americans, in hopes that this is the peak, not the rise, of a potential epidemic.

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Marry me, Marylou

Where it all began

Brianna Kudisch
Contributor

It all started with an open seat at dinner.

One open seat that would lead to 48 years of marriage filled with love, laughter, tears and the mundane circumstances of life.

Marylou (Napolitano) Habecker ('68) first met Gene Habecker ('68) at Taylor, when he sat down in the open seat next to her during dinner. It was tradition for the women to enter the space first and sit down, leaving every other seat open for the men to choose.

Gene didn't skip a beat: later that week he took the opportunity to ask her out on a date.

“I (wasn't) interested in him other than for a friend, (but) he was very interested right away,” Marylou said.

On the other side, the initial thoughts were very positive.

“(My) first impression of Marylou was (that) she was beautiful and I wanted to get to know her,” said Gene.

They continued to go out on dates over the next few months. Marylou still viewed them as just friends.

Then one night, Gene pulled out the “infamous letter” detailing his love for Marylou and how he believed she was the one God wanted him to marry.

But according to Marylou, “God had certainly not told me that!”

Marylou ran in the opposite

direction for quite some time.

That was difficult for Gene, as he wished to marry Marylou, but only if it was God's will.

“We went through three break-ups, and each time was so hard,” Gene said. “I had to be willing to give Marylou back to the Lord and, if we were to be together, God would have to change her heart. I couldn't do that.”

Gene's patience and willingness paid off, as Marylou began to feel differently their junior year. She realized she was caught up in the fantasy of waiting for her Prince Charming to come and sweep her off of her feet.

“Taylor has its imprint on our lives (and) it was here that we learned to trust God. He was sufficient,”

Instead, God was creating a bigger story than Gene and Marylou could ever dream of.

On July 27, 1968, the two wed in Detroit, Michigan.

Taylor University heavily influenced the Habeckers' relationship, from the start to the present.

“Taylor has its imprint on our lives (and) it was here that we learned to trust God. He was sufficient,” Marylou said.

Gene agreed, attributing their relationship's growth to Taylor.

“Taylor was instrumental in that I was able to talk with mentor Resident Directors and faculty friends about our relationship,” Gene said.

They both arrived at Taylor with preconceived notions of how life would be, but those ideas changed when both Marylou and Gene, separately, gave their hearts over to God and fully trusted in him.

Taylor has also impacted them in their careers. The two are retiring this year from their positions as president and first lady of Taylor. In April, they will celebrate their 10th anniversary as Taylor's first couple.

Marylou offers some advice to those involved in a relationship, emphasizing prioritizing the right things as spoken in Matthew 6:33, which states, “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

The Habeckers highlight nine words that have been crucial in their relationship with one another, their families and others. According to Marylou “I love you. I am sorry. Please forgive me” were essential to their marriage.

As the presidential couple prepares to leave Taylor at the end of May, they have mixed emotions about moving on from the place where their life together began.

“Gratefully, we have so much to look forward to as we look to the days ahead together,” Gene said.

Since sharing a meal with the pretty girl in the dining commons, much has happened in their love story. They've shared many more meals and a lot of life in between. All because he refused to let her walk away.

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Marylou and Gene Habecker first met at Taylor. Above, they appear as newlyweds.

LOVE-STRUCK PROFESSORS

Romance and relationship advice from happy couples among Taylor’s faculty

Lindsay Robinson
Life & Times Co-Editor

It’s a familiar routine for any modern love story: the inevitable DTR and relationship update on Facebook, Instagram-worthy coffee dates, ultimately ending with a cute engagement post. But how did our beloved Taylor faculty members navigate dating before the magical combination of young love and

technology? With Valentine’s Day right around the corner, a few of Taylor’s legendary faculty couples share how they met and fell in love, back in the day.

The Bruners

John and Kathy Bruner, both media communication professors, are the dynamic duo of the film department. This power couple recounts their days as middle school sweethearts.

How they met:

Kathy Bruner’s dad was a pastor who had recently transferred to John’s church. His first impression was that she was beautiful but too young, as he was fifteen and she was twelve. So they didn’t start dating until she was fifteen and he was seventeen.

“We have been together ever since,” Kathy said.

He proposed on the front porch of her dorm in college, the September of her senior year. They dated six years before getting engaged and were married in June of ’87.

Relationship:

“He keeps our lives full of joy and

celebration,” Kathy said. It’s one of the traits she most admires about John. “He’s just able to see the bright side in everything.”

John said Kathy is godly and rooted in Scripture. He said she has made him a better person.

“She is this amazing woman, but her one fault is that she has bad taste in men, and I am so grateful for that,” John said. “It has allowed me to be with her all of these years.”

John and Kathy have been married for 28 years.

Advice:

Kathy said to expect to be flexible and give each other grace.

John said to take your time and make a great decision when it comes to choosing who you will marry. He said to know the inner person and worry less about superficial things.

“This whole Ring by Spring thing is the biggest mistake . . . how about ring by whenever it’s ready,” John said.



Photograph provided by John & Kathy Bruner

After 28 years of marriage, Kathy and John Bruner are still side by side.



Photograph provided by John & Kathy Bruner

The Cosgroves

The romantic history of Mark Cosgrove, professor of psychology, and his wife Jo Ann, who works in the Zondervan Library, is anything but ordinary. It involves long-distance relationships and pot gardens.

How They Met:

Mark, then 29, had just received his doctorate and was working in Dallas, Texas. Jo Ann, 25, had recently graduated and was working in the same area as a social worker. They started going to the same Bible study at a nearby church.

A friend told Mark that he should ask Jo Ann out. Mark was hesitant because he had recently accepted a teaching position at Taylor, but

decided to ask her out anyway. They went on a few dates before he started teaching a summer class at Taylor.

“On one of the dates Mark said, ‘We’re going to go back to my apartment, I’ll fix you dinner and show you my pot garden,’” Jo Ann said with a laugh. “So I’m like, ‘pot garden?’ We go to his apartment and his idea of a pot garden is growing green peppers and tomatoes in pots.”

Now reassured that Mark was not a drug dealer, but a lover of gardening, Jo Ann felt comfortable continuing the relationship. They exchanged letters and phone calls throughout the summer.

At one point, Mark returned to Dallas for a month and asked to stay with Jo Ann’s parents.

“We weren’t head over heels in love; we were sort of ‘just dating,’” Jo Ann said. “And at the end of the month he blurted out, ‘Will you marry me?’ We were actually in an argument to be honest.”

It was Mark’s last weekend in Dallas, and he wanted to ask her on Saturday over dinner, but Jo Ann didn’t want to go out anywhere that night. That’s what they were fighting about when Mark asked the question. Mark hadn’t even bought a ring at the time, but knowing he would soon have to return to Upland, he felt he needed to ask Jo Ann.

“I was caught off guard,” Jo Ann said. “I just sat there and I think I said, ‘Is that supposed to be something sort of romantic? . . . I don’t feel like I know you very well.’ When

he left he did say, ‘That offer is on the table, always. In five years if you change your mind, call me.’”

For a month, Jo Ann felt unsettled about her response. Then her roommate asked her if she thought her restlessness was God’s way of telling her that Mark was the man she was supposed to marry.

During one of her calls with Mark, she told him she had changed her mind. In that moment, she felt overwhelming peace.

She said “yes” in October, and they were married in April of the following year. Her engagement ring has a cross on it instead of a diamond because Jo Ann says she’s not a diamond person.

“We married by faith and fell in love after,” Jo Ann said.

Their Relationship:

Mark appreciates Jo Ann’s personality, which he described, “As colorful as a sixty-four count Crayola box.”

“All the time, from 4:30 a.m. when she gets up to go jogging, to midnight when she goes to bed, there’s always laughter and talking,” Mark said.

Jo Ann said what she cherishes most about Mark is his attitude. She said he is kind and accepting about everything.

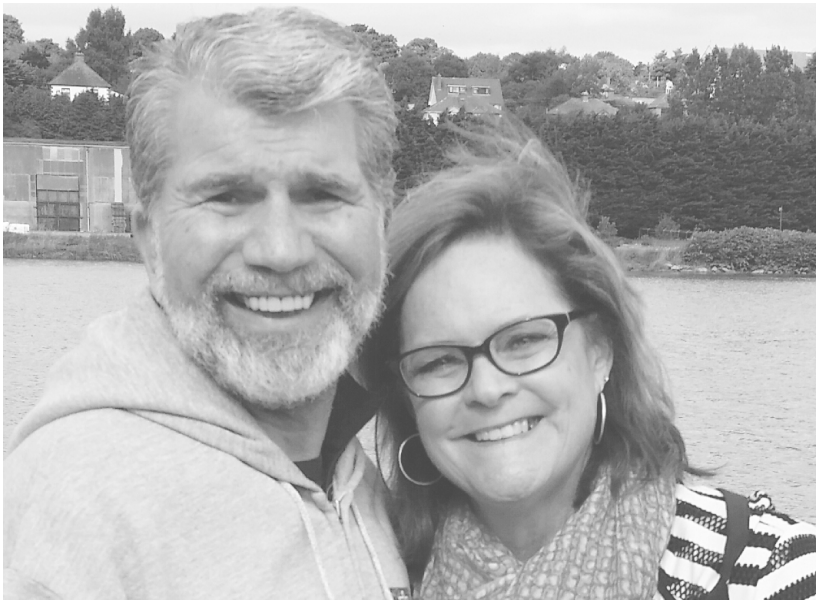
Advice:

Jo Ann’s advice is to marry someone who is kind and thinks of others before themselves.

Mark’s advice is to stay committed to your faith, which makes you stronger as a couple.



Photograph provided by Mark & Jo Ann Cosgrove



Photograph provided by Mark & Jo Ann Cosgrove

The two lovebirds in the dining room will have been married 39 years this April.

The Moores

John Moore is a professor of biology and his wife Cathy works in the music department office as the concert and tour coordinator. Their story is a freshman-meets-senior love story.

How they met:

John was student teaching as a senior at Taylor when he met Cathy, a freshman. John and his Third West Wengatz friends were at a rollerskating party when he spotted Cathy across the rink. He asked her to join him for the couples skate. He guided Cathy—an inexperienced skater—around the corners of the rink for most of the party. Afterward, John went back to student teaching and forgot about her until that January.

Meanwhile, Cathy developed an instant crush on this senior who had taught her to skate. Since no one on her floor knew him, she did some investigating.

“As one of my former wingmates pointed out on our anniversary, she remembered all the stalking incidents,” Cathy said. “He would be at the Dining Commons and I would wait until he got there . . . I would go out some place hoping I’d pass him.”

When they passed each other on the sidewalk, he would say hi to her, but he never saw her as anything more than a friend. Then, during second semester, there was an altar call during Spiritual Renewal week.

John saw Cathy go up to the front. “I was thinking, ‘I wonder why she is going forward,’” John said. “I think I’m going to see if she wants to go out for a cup of coffee and talk about it.”

Little did he know that she was going to the front to ask God to let her concentrate on Him instead of her crush on John.

“So she goes back to the dorm and she gets a call from me . . . It’s a love story because we both decided we wanted to love God first,” John said.

After their first date, they went out every week after that. They were engaged in September and married in January during Cathy’s sophomore year.

Relationship

“It’s a joke that he’s always wrong,” Cathy said. “He isn’t but he always says he’s sorry. I’m always quick to say ‘I’m sorry’.” That stands out as something kind of unique.”

His tendency to be quick to forgive along with his adventurous nature are some of the qualities she most admires in him.

John says that his favorite trait about her is that she seeks after righteousness.



Photograph provided by John & Cathy Moore

John and Cathy’s marriage is still groovy, even after 43 years.



Photograph provided by John & Cathy Moore

“It’s not about her, she wants to center it always in Christ,” he said. “That has been foundational for our relationship”

Advice

Their advice is to keep the foundation of any relationship centered around God first.

The flirting power of emojis

Valentine's Day the text-y way

Braden Ochs
Contributor

It's Valentine's Day. And in the age of technology, we have to find creative ways to communicate romantically. Here are a few ways to let that special person know you care . . . because an emoji is worth a thousand words, right?

1. The basketball

It goes something like this: "If you were a basketball, I'd never shoot." Why? "Because I'd always miss you." It's terribly cheesy, but you know the girl/guy would be interested if that pick-up line worked.

2. The investigator with magnifying glass

If they hate the pick-up line, maybe it's time to try a simpler approach. Sneak this into a text conversation. If he/she asks why you sent that specific emoji, then it's your time to say: "You are the one I've been looking for. God has been giving me so many clues."

3. The heart

I bet you think you already know where this is going. It's so cliché. But are you ready to be faked out? First, you give them the emoji. Then, you express the heart using words: "I'm not an organ donor, but I would be more than happy to give you my heart."

4. The bomb

This one will help you pull off the classic, "You da bomb." I'm sure you already know about this one though, so let's skip this "a-bomb-ination".

5. The cat

"You are the cat's meow!" Okay, I know you've heard that one too, but I'll bet you that emojis will be more effective in expressing this glorious feeling in your stomach.

6. The turtle

This one can be powerful if used right. "I will protect your heart like a shell protects a turtle." Or, for the geeks in the audience: "I can be your Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, baby."

7. The mountain

If your crush likes the outdoors, then it's time to try this: "I would hike Mt. Everest for you." It will mean so much, especially if you hate hiking.

8. The star

This one's easy. "You're a star." And if they need more context, send them the lyrics to the Coldplay song. "'Cause you're a sky, cause you're a sky full of stars I'm gonna give you my heart 'Cause you're a sky, cause

you're a sky full of stars 'Cause you light up the path" Seriously though, this is a good one. Especially if they love Coldplay.

9. The bullseye

"You are the girl/guy I've been aiming for." Then, you two can go shopping at Target after you fall in love. Emojis come with some hot benefits.

10. The microphone

"When I first saw you, my heart sang so vibrantly and beautifully.

This microphone represents my ever-singing love for you, and I hope that my heart can sing like that forever." This is my favorite one. I wouldn't use this one until the time is right. But you'll know when that is.

There you have it. All the conversation starters you need for a romance. This might be cheesy, but cheesy is perfect for this holiday. Good luck and have a magical Valentine's Day!
echo@taylor.edu



An emoji is worth a thousand words.

Photograph provided by Google Images

Kiss your debt goodbye!

Financial Tip
#7 **If you like eating out, eat out for lunch and cook for dinner.** Dinner at a restaurant is far more expensive than lunch at a restaurant, so always go with lunch if you're deciding between the two.

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WANTED

There are a lot of girls at Taylor. There are also a lot of boys at Taylor. A lot of these girls and boys are single. Is that fact really weighing you down? Send your suggestions for bi-weekly bachelor and bachelorette to us at theecho@taylor.edu. You can be the change. **YOU** can make a difference.

The bi-weekly bachelor and bachelorette



Elena Villalobos
"All I require is love, cats and candles."
-Elena Villalobos



Luis Herrera
"We need to remember what's important in life: friends, waffles, work. Or waffles, friends, work. Doesn't matter, but work is third."
-Leslie Knope

#TaylorU's TOP TWEETS

- Abbie Brewer**
My first reaction to seeing a couple in the union today was to audibly say "ew." They heard, it was weird. #tayloru #imsorry
- Lexi Sinclair**
If I made the paper, I'm like famous right? Does that mean I can skip the line for chicken tenders?? #tayloru
- Breanna Bartlett**
I can smell that someone burnt popcorn and all I can think is "oh great what are the chances the fire alarm is going to go off" #TaylorU

Echograms #TaylorU Instagram

@abs_dee12: Had a blast hosting at the Taylor Special Olympics ft. our frickin awesome poster <3
#huntingtonthunder #tayloru #tayloruniversity #friends

@keelingdoug: Skip Trudeau wanted to hang out with me so I let him. #tayloru

- Alec Downing**
"Yeah I haven't started it yet and it's due at 5...so I have...about ten minutes right?" #TaylorU
- Corrie Thompson**
Person applies to speak at Taylor: can you quote Wendell Berry and CS Lewis? #tayloru
- Brecken Mumford**
"We're going to talk about good old Siggy Freud" --Dr. Moeschberger in child psych #tayloru
- Daniel Bowman Jr.**
When your roommate knocks on Energizing poetry workshop today. Great poems, great observations and insights...this is a real powerhouse group. @TaylorU_English #TaylorU
- danielle marie**
"I loved life span, it just didn't love me. I used to sleep with my life span book because I wanted it to love me." -@hannah_cut14 #tayloru

Films for failures

A movie guide to Valentine's Day bitterness

Austin Lindner
A&E Editor

As Valentine's Day slinks around the corner, waiting to pounce and devour us along with our chocolate hearts, maybe you're not feeling the holiday spirit as much as society says you should.

Perhaps as a single, you're having difficulty sidestepping the couples making out on the dormitory floor, or you just can't seem to find the right stick to poke them with until they move out of the way.

"Titanic" reminds the audience that every relationship is really just a slowly sinking ship, and there's only room on the debris for one. So gently shove your potential loved ones into the frozen water while you still can.

Every lonely single has silently groaned at this time of year, as classic romantic comedies pop up on every TV screen across campus, with their impossibly happy endings and unrealistically perfect characters.

That being said, everyone deserves something to watch on Valentine's Day, even the bitter singles. If butterfly kisses and long-term commitment aren't your style, here are a few perfect "Anti-Valentine's Day" movies to watch instead of throwing broccoli at couples walking the Loop.

Titanic: Because all love is a sinking ship

Some call it a masterpiece, others say it's an overrated CGI-saturated soap opera. Whatever the case, "Titanic" is one of the seminal films of our generation, as well as one of the best movies to watch on Valentine's Day as an angry single.

Not only do you get to see Leonardo DiCaprio not win an Oscar, but the film depicts probably the most accurate analogy for dating in our modern age—a deadly iceberg waiting to crush you.

While there is a lot of unfortunate hugging, kissing and "feelings" before people start plummeting into the ocean, "Titanic" reminds the audience that every relationship is really just a slowly sinking ship, and there's only room on the debris for one. So gently shove your potential loved ones into the frozen water while you still can. o the frozen water while you still can.

Fatal Attachment: Everyone is crazy and romance will kill you

A thriller with a hint of horror, "Fatal Attachment" is a romantic comedy turned sour. Beginning with a run-of-the-mill one-night stand, "Attachment" slowly escalates to stabbing in a bathroom, dead rabbits and screaming, much like every relationship.

On top of that, it's actually a well-made movie, garnering six Academy Award nominations and featuring chilling performances from Glenn

Close and Michael Douglas. But more importantly, the film teaches us that the cute, quirky guy or girl you bumped into at the coffee shop might actually be a crazed psychopath. You're not still single because you're an unpleasant pessimist—it's just a matter of survival.

Contagion: Don't let anyone kiss you

You know what's romantic? Long walks on the beach, holding hands and carving your initials into an oak tree. You know what isn't romantic? Incurable, painful infections slowly spreading around the globe.

Luckily that's the premise of this film, directed by Steven Soderbergh. When a woman collapses into a diseased death after returning from a trip abroad, the isolated incident quickly becomes a global epidemic told through overlapping storylines and an extensive cast of characters.

Beyond the captivating story and suspenseful pacing, the film provides bitter singles with the wonderful lesson that every potential lover is actually a germ-riddled meat slab. Only solitude can save you from the contagion of love.

Gone Girl: Behind every happy couple is murder and sociopathy

While its title makes it sound like a Lifetime movie in which Jennifer Lopez leaves for an exciting new job in the Big Apple, in reality "Gone Girl" is neither romantic nor terrible. Starring Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike in an Oscar-nominated performance, "Gone Girl" is a mystery thriller about a man accused of murdering his wife.

After a series of gut-wrenching twists, it becomes clear that Pike's character may not be the innocent victim she appears to be. With creative storytelling "Gone Girl" proves that behind every happy, smiling couple is a crazy woman smashing a hammer into her face and a man who dreams about killing her.

Rosemary's Baby: Your baby is the devil

With all of this love and chocolate in the air, settling down and having a few kids with a significant other may seem like an exciting thing to do.

It won't after watching this film. In "Rosemary's Baby," director Roman Polanski creates a captivating piece of cinematic storytelling that confirms any rational woman's fear that she might be giving birth to the Antichrist.

Starring Mia Farrow in this classic role, "Baby" follows the Woodhouses, a young married couple, as they move to a new apartment where they meet a suspicious group of new neighbors and friends. After Rosemary Woodhouse becomes pregnant, a series of sinister events occur around her, and she begins to suspect that her pregnancy might have darker implications.

Sure, the pacing is brilliant and the themes of society's pressures and restrictions on women are thought-provoking, but the main takeaway from this film should be that every marriage is just an Antichrist birth waiting to happen.

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Senior film major Ashley Young captures the Rwandan landscape.

Photograph provided by Logan Evans

Recording hope in Rwanda

Film students create documentary after traveling to Rwanda and Uganda

Laura Koenig
Staff Writer

The international documentary film-making class, along with the sociology department's ethnic and minority issues class, traveled to Rwanda and Uganda over J-term. The film students recorded interviews with a variety of people in Rwanda for a documentary, which they are currently piecing together.

Seven film students led by associate media communication professor Steve Bailey arrived in Africa with a few ideas for the theme of their documentary but no concrete storyline.

As they interviewed the Rwandan Youth for Christ director, genocide victims, pastors and American missionaries working in Rwanda, the students began to piece together a story of hope for this small country.

After suffering the Rwandan genocide between the Hutu majority and the Tutsi minority in 1994, the people

of Rwanda want to highlight the transformation of their country over the past 20 years, focusing on the future instead of the past.

"A couple people that we interviewed really wanted to emphasize that right now Rwanda is a peaceful, stable and fruitful country," said junior Elyse Horb. "It's very important to the people in Rwanda that the rest of the world knows that."

The students not only experienced the challenge of choosing a theme, but also the adventures of filming internationally.

Upon arriving in Africa, the customs agents thought the team's cameras looked suspicious, so they held them overnight. A few students had to wait over 20 hours for customs to release the equipment.

The team had to use translators during the interviews and learn how to determine the appropriate times to either pull out their cameras or just watch and listen without recording.

"The trip hasn't changed my perspective overall on filmmaking," junior Logan Evans said. "I've always really recognized filmmaking as being

able to tell a story and have loved doing that. But I think it gave me new perspectives on filming internationally and the things to be prepared for."

Evans also thought carefully about the balance between getting the needed information and footage while also caring about the people, respecting their stories and building relationships.

The team did not have as many opportunities to film in Uganda. However, they had the chance to interview American missionaries working there. With this footage, they will create a promotional video for the missionaries to use to share their ministries with others.

Along with this piece, the students are working together in their free time to finish their documentary about Rwanda. Each student is pitching in to listen to the interviews, piece the storyline together, put footage on the screen and color-correct. They are hoping to have the documentary done by spring break.

The final product will determine how they'll use the documentary. However, they are planning to share their experiences and final product with the Taylor community with a screening.

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Senior Becca Jackson dances in front of the Chorale.

Photograph by Shannon Smagala

And the Oscar goes to...

Chorale hosts a benefit banquet to support their spring mission trip to Greece

Danielle Barnes
Staff Writer

This Friday, the Taylor music department trades romance and passion for nostalgic, award-winning melodies in its Oscars-themed performance.

The Taylor Sounds' Valentine's Day dinner performance has been a tradition for years. This year, however, the music department is collaborating with the Dining Commons to present the dinner as a benefit banquet in support of the Chorale's spring mission trip to Greece.

JoAnn Rediger, music professor and director of the Chorale ensemble, has been working with student officers, the choir's leadership team of five upperclassmen, to produce a

performance that incorporates dance, humor and song.

"Two weeks into the semester is a lot of pressure on this group to put an entire program together, but they can do it," Rediger said. "We brainstormed what kind of music would be engaging and fun for the students to perform."

The diverse song list includes familiar tunes such as "Over The Rainbow" and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight." Both Chorale and Sounds will provide a variety of musical numbers. The Chorale will also be splitting into smaller groups for several numbers conducted and led by students Lee, Koons and senior Becca Jackson.

The evening will model the Oscars, presenting a past year's nominees, leading into performances of the winning numbers. Chorale seniors Taylor Eaton and Chavandra Clark are excited to reenact such a renowned event.

"We're treating it like a red carpet event. The girls are going to be in their fancy dresses and the guys will be in their tuxedos," Eaton said. "The whole thing is a show, so even when people who aren't singing are sitting down, they're still going to act scenes out."

This will be a rare opportunity for Chorale to escape their organized rows and windows.

"I'm excited about the freeness of the concert," Clark said. "It's always nice when we don't have to be contained in lines watching our conductor the entire time, and I love it when we get to add our personal style to our performances."

The concert is currently sold out, but Rediger is hoping to share the Oscar Night experience with Taylor students at a similar event later in the semester.

Oscar Night will take place on Friday at 7 p.m. in the Hodson Dining Commons Alspaugh rooms.

echo@taylor.edu



Photograph provided by Google Images

"Titanic" has everything bitter singles want to watch—failed love and icebergs.



Nothing is more important than that special someone, right?

Illustration by Isabelle Kroeker

Darling, you will always be number...two

Valentine's Day theology

G. Connor Salter
Contributor

Eight months ago, I was in Asia with a friend of mine. We were working on a tree farm as part of a three-month mission trip. One afternoon as we

sat on the porch talking, the topic turned to relationships. My friend felt God was revealing things to him about marriage through Scripture. I was quietly infatuated with one of the girls on our team, so I listened as he laid out what he'd learned.

The big thing he'd realized was that if he married someone, she would have to be okay with him loving God more than he did her, and he would have to be okay with her loving God first, too.

I didn't say anything—but I let that comment germinate in my mind.

It was a terribly unromantic thing to think about. Most of our great romantic music and stories are devoted to the idea that your partner should be number one—the person you love over everything else. Your everything. It's beautiful, and I'm a hopeless romantic who can't get enough of it, but this Valentine's Day I'm left thinking, "How much of that idea is really true?"

At least some of it is. This music and art celebrates commitment, that your partner should be someone you're willing to die for. Someone with whom you grow old and become "one flesh," as Genesis 2:24 puts it. Valentine's Day should be a time where we really celebrate that dedicated love.

But should this person be the only thing you're living for? Where does God fit into that romantic equation?

Sadly, many people rely on their partner to give them meaning,

especially in a secular world, where all people have to live for is each other. Maybe our culture emphasizes Valentine's Day so much because this is the day many people celebrate the only thing they're living for.

Even if you don't care for all the Valentine's Day sentiment, you can flip through radio channels at any given time of day and find a song that mixes romance with religious terminology (phrases like "all I need," "you give me meaning" and explicit comparisons between love and heaven). John Eldredge devoted part of his book "Wild At Heart" to how men often idolize women and pursue them because they think having the girl will make them real men. We turn our partners into gods.

The problem is that humans can't fill the space God is designed to occupy. We try to find meaning in our partners but discover they are simply humans. They make mistakes; they're occasionally rude or unavailable; they can't fulfill our every need. Bit of a letdown on the most romantic day of the year.

But if we make God our first love, he can give us the patience to forgive our partners when they're imperfect. He can show us how to put our partners ahead of ourselves and work together as one unit with them. He can show us how to truly commit to them and be the person they deserve to have.

I don't know that there's anything more romantic than that.

Allah = Yahweh?

Doc Hawk carries a mixed bag of theology

Becca Robb
Co-News Editor

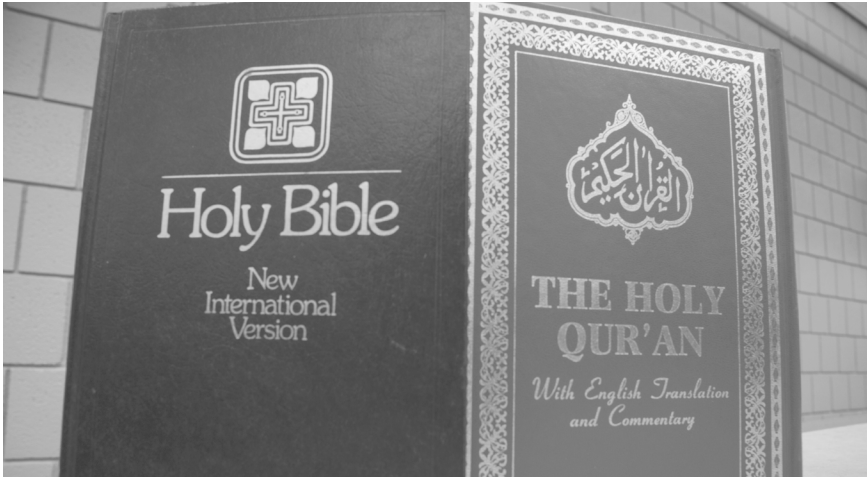
Professor Larycia Hawkins disturbed many Christian circles when she proposed in December that Muslims and Christians "worship the same God."

Though I admit that this statement seemed borderline heretical to me when

I first read it, I'm more willing to support her position after considering the theology behind it.

Hawkins said Christians and Muslims worship the same God. She did not say they follow the same religion. Some might argue that pious Muslims also worship Yahweh, but just aren't aware of it.

On his blog, theologian John Stackhouse explains Hawkins' original statement by saying, "When pious Muslims



Photograph provided by Mindy Wildman

Hawkins inspires us to reevaluate our beliefs' affect on others.

Hawkins said Christians and Muslims worship the same God. She did not say they follow the same religion.

Allah = Yahweh?

Cam's collapse

Sore losing makes MVP look bad

Chris Yingling
Co-Editor in Chief

"Cam Newton, your team just lost the Super Bowl. What are you going to do next?"

Apparently, Newton's going to be a sore loser.

That was the case last Sunday as Peyton Manning's Denver Broncos dismantled the heavily-favored Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl 50. Super Bowl MVP linebacker Von Miller and future Hall-of-Famer DeMarcus Ware made the football field a living hell for Newton as the 26-year-old quarterback struggled to find any sort of offensive footing. He was responsible for three of the Panthers' four turnovers, he made too many errant throws and his offensive line looked disheveled.

But perhaps Newton's biggest blunder of the day was the way he handled his postgame press conference.

In case you haven't seen the viral videos, Newton sat down to field the barrage of questions. While the one-two punch of Miller and Ware hurt, this must've felt like agony to the inexperienced quarterback. He had just spent the last two weeks guaranteeing a Panthers victory. His confidence level was through the roof heading into the biggest game of the year. Newton was obviously unprepared to be knocked off his high horse.

Frustrated with the questioning, Newton stood up and left the stage, unannounced and unprovoked. He collapsed under the pressure of being the losing quarterback for only the second time all season. Immersed in his culture of dancing, dabbing, giving footballs to children and essentially having no weaknesses, he forgot humility. I get it. Losing the Super Bowl has to be one of the worst feelings imaginable. He's riding his incredible 17-1 team with the No.1 scoring offense and sixth-ranked defense into the biggest game. He has every right to be upset

that things didn't go his way against Denver. Winning should be important to a quarterback, and he should be upset with the way his team played.

His emotions are not the problem. The way he handled them is the problem.

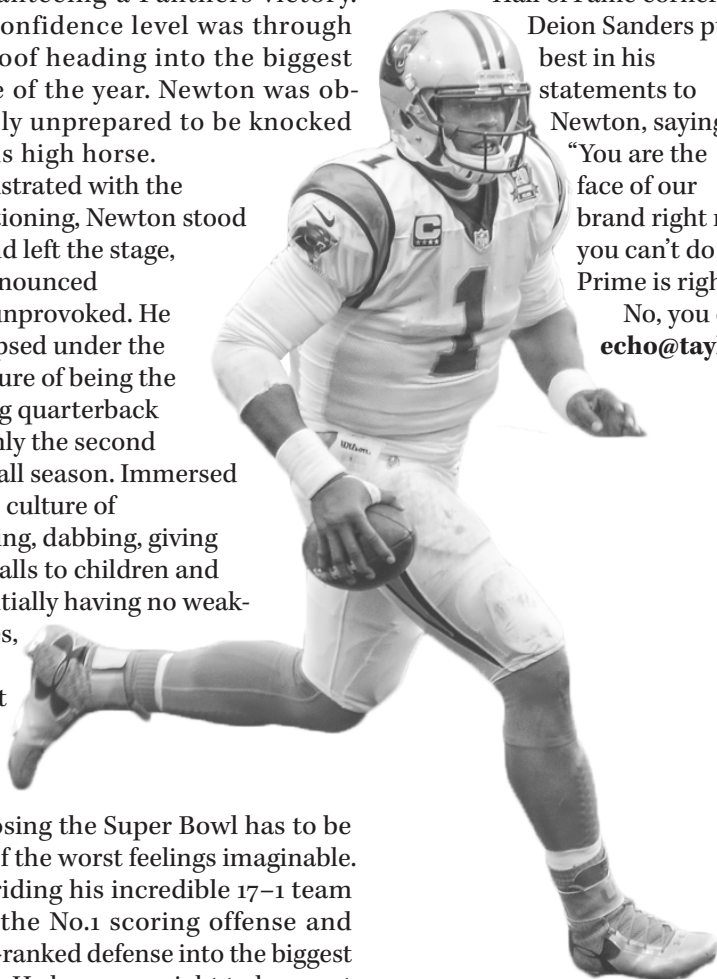
Walking off the stage during a press conference shows an incredible amount of immaturity. If you look at the all-time greats when they lose the championship (Peyton Manning, Tom Brady, Ben Roethlisberger, etc.), they shoulder the emotions in front of the media. They answer questions directly, take responsibility for not doing enough and vow to get better.

After winning his first NFL MVP award and becoming a household name, Newton is quickly becoming the face of the NFL. He's popular all over the world for loving the game of football and exemplifying that with his play. That's wonderful, and I encourage Newton to continue loving football as much as he does.

However, Newton needs to learn to lose. As the face of the franchise, there are kids looking up to Cam Newton for how he plays the game. While he gives a great example of having fun every down, I don't want the next generation of football players trying to learn the art of graciously losing from Newton.

Hall of Fame cornerback Deion Sanders put it best in his statements to Newton, saying, "You are the face of our brand right now, you can't do that." Prime is right.

No, you can't.
echo@taylor.edu



Photograph provided by Flickr user Mike Morbeck

pray, they are addressing the One True God." Stackhouse points to stories passed down from Christian missionaries, who report that converts from Islam to Christianity often claim they didn't discover a new deity, but came to understand the true God better.

So do Muslims and Christians worship the same god? Yes and no.

Yes, because both religions trace their roots to the God of Abraham and to parts of the Old Testament story. No, because now we understand aspects of God previously unknown to people in Abraham's time.

The aspects that differentiate between Allah and Yahweh boil down to two core issues:

First, Allah does not include the Trinity. Second, Islam does not recognize Jesus Christ as the only way to life.

These declarations are both written in The Quran: "And do not say, 'Three'; desist - it is better for you. Indeed, Allah is but one God. Exalted is He above having a son" (Surah An-Nisa 4:171, Saheeh International).

Both Islam and Christianity trace their history back to Abraham in the Old Testament. But perhaps the most profound and wonderful aspect of the Old Testament is Israel's story of failure and yet faith, which is made complete in Jesus

Christ. Because Islam doesn't recognize Jesus as God's son and the gospel-fulfilling Messiah, Islam lacks a fundamental element of God.

Granted, even the Old Testament followers didn't have the concept of the Trinity or knowledge of Jesus. However, we do now. And the New Testament doesn't leave much room for interpretation when it declares, "No one who denies the Son has the Father" (1 John 2:23).

Hawkins was brave to say what she did so publicly. I admire her efforts to reach out to people of another faith. I admire her boldness and bravery to wear a hijab for 15 days. I admire her heart to love Muslims instead of fearing or even hating them.

Admittedly, we don't have the full picture here. We only know what Hawkins and Wheaton's administration have chosen to make public.

We do know that the main trajectory of Hawkins' original post appears to be pursuing reconciliation, not advancing her theological perspective. It's unfortunate that we have focused on this single line and all but forgotten her original purpose. Perhaps the larger issue at hand is how we're going to treat Muslims—if we will treat them with contempt, or if we will love them patiently and without fear.
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LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Are you opinionated? Join the campus discussion by submitting your own letter-to-the-editor to liz_syson@taylor.edu by Wednesday at 5 p.m. Please keep the word count to 500-700 words.



Senior Katie DeHaan helped the women’s medley relay team qualify for the national championship.

Trojans impress at Indiana Wesleyan

Track and field sets school records at Indiana Wesleyan Invitational

Landry Long
Co-Sports Editor

The Taylor men’s and women’s track team posted impressive performances Saturday at the Indiana Wesleyan Invitational. With stellar outings from the sprint, field and distance squads, the school’s record board will soon see many updates.

Sophomore Joe Beamish ran for a personal record on the men’s distance side in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 8:45, while the women’s side dominated the distance events, including a medley relay team of seniors Jane Hawks, Katie DeHaan, Sarina Oleson and sophomore Alex Berends. The team hit the automatic qualification mark for the national championship with a time of 12:29.

On the field side, freshman Kody Pritt finished fifth in the high jump with a leap of 1.84 meters, while junior Harry Daytona threw for a distance of 15.82 meters for a fourth place finish in the shot put. The women’s field team was led by freshman Miriam Wood, who not only took third in the triple jump with a leap of 10.89 meters, but also finished second in the 600-meter run. Freshman Brianna Jordahl also took home seventh place in the shot put with a throw of 11.20 meters.

With excellent outings across the board for the team, stand-outs included freshman Plenseh-Tay Sakeuh, junior Leslie Romer and senior Brandon Wilchcombe. All three athletes broke school records in their events.

Sakeuh broke her own school record in the long jump with a leap of 5.59 meters, automatically qualifying for the NAIA Indoor National Championship. She also placed first in the

60-meter hurdles with an ‘A’ standard time of 8.91 seconds.

Feeling confident with her long jump performance, Sakeuh also believes that she has room for improvement in the hurdles.

“Long jump was really good,” Sakeuh said. “Hurdles was a messy race but I still got first so it was good, but at the same time there’s still stuff to improve on.”

Starting off her track career with a strong campaign, Sakeuh realizes how blessed she is to be a part of something much bigger than just running and competing.

“Just the fact that we pray together, and whenever you’re running you can hear teammates from way across the other side of the gym cheering for you,” Sakeuh said. “It’s just really nice that we have the common bond that we’re running for Christ, but we’re also united in our day-to-day lives and on the track.”

On the men’s side, Romer and Wilchcombe sprinted their way to a combined three school records. Romer won and qualified for indoor nationals in both the 60- and 200-meter dash, while Wilchcombe broke the TU record in the 60-meter hurdles and also qualified for nationals.

After battling numerous injuries over the past few years, Romer was pleased with his performance and his ability to race again. He now has his eyes set toward the national meet with high hopes for success.

“We have indoor nationals at the beginning of March, and the number one goal is to be All-American, but I still want to just go there and be competitive,” Romer said. “The goal is still to win at the end of the day, but I’d definitely like to make it in the finals in the 60-meter.”

Romer also qualified for the national meet in the 200-meter dash, but he isn’t sure whether he will be running the event or not.

After a rough race in the heat trial, Wilchcombe refocused with the help of his coach, coming out victorious in the finals.

“Once the gun went off, I just went out,” Wilchcombe said. “I got out of the blocks a little late, but as I saw my competitors ahead of me, it was just a fight. Coach talked about the theme being focus, like fighting for being focused. Finish your race. So I just worked hard throughout the hurdles and came out with a personal best and broke my record again.”

Coach David Neville was very proud of his three record-setting sprinters and looks forward to seeing what they can accomplish in the future.

“Plenseh-Tay Sakeuh is doing really good in the hurdles,” said Neville. “She didn’t run her fastest time but she ran close to her fastest time this past weekend. She also had a monster jump in the long jump which was awesome, right now sitting at number two in the nation, so we’re really excited about that, and with how she’s performing and competing.”

Neville also believes that Romer has the ability to continue to decrease his times and move up in the national ranking and Wilchcombe will continue to drop his times in the hurdles.

WEEKLY PREVIEW

BASEBALL

SCHEDULE
2/12 Shawnee State (N) 3:00 P.M.
2/12 Bluefield (N) 6:30 P.M.
2/13 Judson (N) 2:00 P.M.
2/13 Bluefield (N) 5:00 P.M.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

SCHEDULE
2/13 Saint Francis 3:00 P.M.
2/16 Goshen (Senior Night) 7:00 P.M.

MEN’S TRACK & FIELD

SCHEDULE
2/13 Taylor Invitational 10:00 A.M.

SOFTBALL

SCHEDULE
2/12 Tennessee Wesleyan (N) 3:00 P.M.
2/12 Reinhardt (A) 5:00 P.M.
2/13 Reinhardt (A) 11:00 A.M.
2/13 Georgetown (N) 1:00 P.M.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

SCHEDULE
2/13 Saint Francis (A) 1:00 P.M.
2/17 Goshen (A) 7:00 P.M.

WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD

SCHEDULE
2/13 Taylor Invitational 10:00 A.M.

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The Trojans will spike up this Saturday when TU hosts its own invitational at the KSAC.
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Wildcats throttle Trojans

Late-game blunders prove fatal for Taylor

Connor Rowland
Contributor

Tuesday marked the 65th annual conference clash between Grant County rivals Taylor and fourth-ranked Indiana Wesleyan. The team traveled to a sold out Luckey Arena, home of the Wildcats. The nationally broadcasted game on ESPN3 went to IWU, defeating the Trojans by a score of 86–68.

The Wildcats (23–4, 12–3 CL) started the game shooting lights out. The nation’s top-ranked offense drilled their first four shots on their way to an 8–3 lead—an edge Indiana Wesleyan never relinquished. However, Taylor (12–15, 6–9 CL) refused to quit and played a physical game from the opening tipoff.

With 14:32 remaining in the first half, the Trojans gained momentum when senior Kyle Stidom dished a pass to sophomore Vivian Aiken in the paint. The redshirt sophomore worked his way against the Wildcat center for a hard fought bucket. The apparent field goal decreased Indiana Wesleyan’s lead to 10–11. However, Aiken was called for a flagrant one foul, negating the two points and turning the ball over. The flagrant foul resulted in two free points from the free throw line on the other end for the Wildcats along with a field goal. This critical six-point swing extended IWU’s margin 14–9 in the early minutes of the contest.

The Wildcats dominated the first half. Indiana Wesleyan extended its lead to 14 points. However, the Trojans rallied with a 14–4 assault. Sophomore guard Keaton Hendricks was a huge contributor off the bench, draining a critical three-point field goal to counter the Wildcats’ attack. The score stood at 28–32 in favor of Indiana Wesleyan when Taylor’s run fizzled.

Despite the Trojans’ efforts to slow the Wildcat offense, Indiana Wesleyan dominated the remaining four minutes. The Wildcats surged ahead to conclude the first half with a 12–0 run. The score going into the half boasted a reeling Trojans squad in serious need of adjustments, trailing 32–46.

“We came in at halftime (Tuesday night),” said Taylor head coach Josh Andrews. “We had given up 10 offensive rebounds and we had 10 turnovers.”

Midway through the second half, the Trojans surmounted what seemed to be a game-altering play. Senior Shakir Dunning swiped a pass from Indiana Wesleyan and dribbled around a defender for a contested transition layup along with a foul.

Luckey Arena, once booming with cheers, fell silent after Dunning’s highlight play. After Dunning hit his free throw, the score was 59–54. All of the momentum seemingly switched from the red and white sideline to the purple and gold. However, a loose ball on the Wildcats’ side of the court bounced the home team’s way, and the Wildcats scored a three-pointer,

triggering absolute pandemonium from the IWU student section.

“The very next possession we played great defense,” said freshman Evan Crowe. “We really closed out well and then it was a long rebound. They beat us to (the ball) and they found a wide open three, which kind of made the momentum go back their way. They kind of just took off from there.”

When the dust finally settled on the rivalry, the Wildcats cruised to an 86–68 victory. Rebounding, points in the paint and turnovers decided Tuesday night’s rivalry game. The Wildcats dominated every category. The boards were commanded by IWU (37) compared to TU (28). The extra possessions translated to a plethora of points by the Wildcats. Indiana Wesleyan netted 42 points in the paint while the Trojans scored 26.

“Second chance stuff got us. Being disciplined defensively got us at times,” Andrews said. “They crashed the glass. They’re really good players, and they’re a really great team. Credit



Senior Shakir Dunning led the Trojans with 17 points against Indiana Wesleyan.

coach Tonagel, their staff and their guys because they play the game the right way. They’re very good.”

The Trojans shot an impressive 44.4 percent beyond the three-point arch but could not consistently put extended runs together. Dunning continued his hot stretch, netting 17 points on 6–9 shooting. Hendricks provided a boost off the bench shooting an impressive 75 percent from the three-point line with 11 points.

Taylor looks to improve its 12–15 record as the Trojans set their eyes on the approaching Crossroads League Tournament.

“We’ll get better,” Andrews said. “Our guys are working at it. I’m proud of them. Tough game, we’d like a better outcome. But we’re getting there.”

Taylor takes the court again Saturday against No. 3 University of Saint Francis. Tip-off is set for 3 p.m.
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Athlete of the Week

Brandan Wilchcombe

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Year | Senior |
| Hometown | Freeport Grand Bahama, Bahamas |
| Position | Specializes in the 110-meter and 400-meter hurdles and sprints |
| Favorite quote | “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13 |
| Funniest teammate | Jared, Leslie & Harry “Combo Full of Jokes” |
| Favorite pump up song | “Pipe it Up” by Migos |
| Photograph by Fayth Glock | |

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